

Celebrity pg 18

Friends worried about partying LiLo



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Lansdowne Live approved

Council votes 14-9 on park redevelopment; Kanata stadium proposal on hold

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

Lansdowne Live got the green light from city council yesterday, while the proposed Kanata stadium has been shelved for at least a couple of months.

Over the next 60 days, the city will enter into negotiations with the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group (OSEG) to redesign all of Lansdowne Park, including rebuilding Frank Clair Stadium and the Ot-

tawa Civic Centre.

However, the motion that passed at council by a vote of 14-9 comes with a host of conditions, including no large-format commercial establishments, no housing components and improved pedestrian and cycling access to the Rideau Canal.

Speaking on behalf of OSEG, Minto Developments chairman and CEO Roger Greenberg called it "a terrific day for the residents of Ottawa."

"Council decided very clearly that their preference

Negotiations

- There is a 60-day deadline for negotiating the terms of the partnership, which would then return to city council for approval.

is to try to work out something that works at Lansdowne Park," he said.

Greenberg and a group of other prominent Ottawa businessmen have secured a CFL franchise to play in the stadium whenever it's complete.

Capital Ward Coun. Clive Doucet warned that approving Lansdowne Live was like pulling a "pin on a grenade that will never stop going off."

Doucet said the sole-source procurement process establishes a precedent for disposing of valuable city assets without a competitive process and the stadium is in a poor location since a rapid transit network will never serve it.

However, College Ward Coun. Rick Chiarelli said residents should be pleased

the city finally made a decision to improve a part of the city that now resembles "a scene from The Flintstones."

While the city is negotiating with OSEG, the proposed stadium in Kanata is on hold.

"We're disappointed," said Senators Sports and Entertainment chief operating officer Cyril Leeder. "We still believe that we have a good proposal and I'm pretty confident that a soccer-specific stadium was the right way to go."

Metro lauded as newspaper of the year

AWARD Metro International SA has just been named Newspaper of the Year at the Festival of Media Awards, in Valencia, Spain.

The awards celebrate innovation and creativity and are widely recognized as the largest celebration of media in the industry. Metro International won this prestigious title over internationally acclaimed publications including the Financial Times, the Wall Street Journal and The New York Times.

"Metro has been dedicated to inventing new and creative formats for advertisers for the past decade and on behalf of all our amazing staff I'm very, very proud to have been given this honour," said CEO Per Mikael Jensen. "It proves that even with the highest editorial standards, which Metro prides itself on, you can produce exceptionally efficient advertising that can compete — and beat — any other formats, on TV, radio or online."

Fossil, at least 20 million years old, going on display

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

For an Ottawa-based scientist, what started out as an inconvenience led to the discovery of a new mammal.

Back in 2007, Canadian Museum of Nature vertebrate paleontologist Natalia Rybczynski was leading a research team on Devon Island, Nunavut, when the group's all-terrain vehicle ran out of gas.

That was when the group found the first fossil remains of an animal.

The team went on to uncover a partial skeleton of a pinniped, a group that includes seals, sea lions and walruses.

The animal, named Puijila darwini (Puijila means "young sea mammal" in Inuktitut and darwini pays homage to Charles Darwin), was a four-legged, semi-aquatic carnivore that measured 110 centimetres from nose to tail.

The 20- to 24-million-



Natalia Rybczynski of the Canadian Museum of Nature is shown in February preparing a fossil for 3D scanning in this photo released to Reuters yesterday. The specimen was found during the 2007-08 Fossil Project in the Houghton Impact Crater, Devon Island, Nunavut.

year-old fossil skeleton provides a glimpse into the earliest stages of land-to-sea transition. Puijila was

found in a lake deposit that was formed in the impact crater. Fossil fish found there suggested the

lake was freshwater.

The Puijila darwini skeleton is on display at the Canadian Museum of Nature

from April 28 through May 10, and will travel to New York's American Natural History Museum in mid-May.

Food pg 14



Gems grown under glass

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Local wins track scholarship

Ottawa's Allan Brett has been named the recipient of the sixth annual Ottawa Race Weekend National Athletic Scholarship. The bursary was launched in 2003 for promising young Canadian track athletes. **METRO OTTAWA**

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Local

Jeans for a tree

Earth Day may be over for another year, but that doesn't mean your environmental efforts can't continue. On Saturday, bring a pair of old jeans to the Billings Bridge Centre for recycling and receive a gift card and a free tree for planting and learn to integrate green living into your home.

METRO OTTAWA

Ottawa Bluesfest plugs in

TRACEY TONG
tracy.tong@metronews.ca

Social media addicts and technophiles who can't live without Facebook or their iPhones can get more out of Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest this year as the festival plugs into a new social media utility.

"You can watch videos of the acts you've never heard of," said Allan Isfan, who, along with Bill Love, co-founded FaveQuest, the company that delivers Bluesfest ViewTube, the new social video platform. "If you like them, you can add it to your calendar and send an invitation to all your friends."

Users can also get updates on email, Facebook or Twitter.

The application will make it easier for music fans to check out new bands before heading down to LeBreton Flats in July, said Bluesfest artistic direc-



Bluesfest is jumping on the social media bandwagon, allowing music lovers to check out bands coming to Ottawa on the festival website, said artistic director Mark Monahan at the Bluesfest site at LeBreton Flats yesterday.

tor Mark Monahan. "We hope that people will use it to discover new music."

Although the 16th annual festival — expected to draw

more than 275,000 people to LeBreton Flats over 12 days — features big names every night (KISS, Stone Temple Pilots, Jeff Beck and

Our Lady Peace, to name a few), Monahan said the goal of the festival is to "keep the lineup fresh and exciting, bringing in acts that

may not be coming to Ottawa otherwise."

The festival features 60 local acts that will play alongside more than 200 internationally known acts.

Being an Ottawa festival, "it's a big priority for us to showcase local talent," said Monahan. "In many cases, the local acts are also world-class, something that people may not realize."

In addition to social media, Bluesfest is also introducing new greening initiatives this year.

While the festival has already used compostable cups and recycling facilities for a number of years, the festival will add composting in the volunteer area, a second bike park and the use of biodegradable garbage bags and cutlery and plates for food vendors this year.



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Soldiers, vets get free ride on Via Rail

TRACEY TONG
tracy.tong@metronews.ca

TRAIN In celebration of the contribution of Canadian Forces personnel, members and veterans travel free on Via Rail across Canada this July.

In addition, each active or retired Canadian Forces member may bring up to five family members with them, at a 50 per cent discount.

At an announcement at the Ottawa Via station yesterday, Minister of State (Transport) Rob Merrifield said he supports Via's initiative "to honour Canadian Forces personnel and their families with these special fares."

"I'm proud to be a part of a government that ... honours Canada's bravest and encourages them and their families to enjoy recreational time touring the country that they serve and protect," said Transport and Infrastructure Minister John Baird.

This initiative will allow them to visit more of the country and meet the people whom they have committed to defend, said Minister of National Defence and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway Peter MacKay.

In 2008, some 60,000 current or retired Canadian Forces personnel took advantage of Via's fare initiative.

Teen charged in March swarming

BILLINGS STATION Police said yesterday they have charged an Ottawa teen in connection with a swarming at the Billings transit station March 25.

A 15-year-old male, who cannot be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, faces charges of robbery, assault, possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace and carrying a concealed weapon. He was released from custody and will appear in youth court May 12.

Robbery unit investigators continue to seek three other suspects, all males between 18 and 22 years old.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

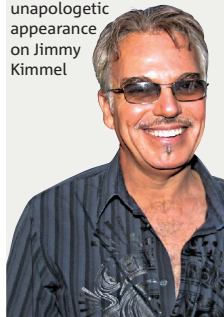
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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Jim Flaherty sees positive economic signs, but warns unemployment will remain high at metronews.ca/canada

Video Tori Stafford's family harbour "suspensions" about composite sketch of suspect at metronews.ca/canada

Blog Hollywood Rants blasts Billy Bob Thornton's unapologetic appearance on Jimmy Kimmel



Lotteries

Lotto 6/49: 10, 12, 21, 38, 41 & 42 Bonus 28

Ontario 49: 1, 2, 5, 7, 38 & 47 Bonus 39

Ontario Pick 3: 9 7 4; Ontario Pick 4: 5 3 1

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Daily Keno: 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 15, 20, 35, 37, 38,

45, 47, 53, 56, 62, 63, 64, 69

These results are not official.

City taking art to 'neglected' underground

TRACEY TONG

tracy.tong@metronews.ca

DOWNTOWN It used to be dark, windy, and a bit scary to walk through.

It's still windy, but organizers of Downtown Rideau's Underpass Project — now in its second year — hope to make the pedestrian link between Wellington and Rideau streets a place people will actually want to be.

Following the murder of homeless man Steven Beriault in the underpass in 2006, members of the Downtown Rideau Business Improvement Area started talking about what could be done to make the area safer.

Studies have shown that people felt safer in the area after the project was launched last year,



Ottawa artist Kelly Ann Beaton, with her work in the pedestrian link between Wellington and Rideau streets, hopes art in the downtown will make people slow down and enjoy the area.

said DRBIA executive director Peggy Ducharme.

"It has a huge impact on the perception of the area," said Ducharme, who said the area — used by 5,600 pedestrians each day — was "neglected for far too long."

In addition to art, the Underpass Project, which runs through October, will also feature artists

and artisans selling their work, music and dance performances and screenings of locally produced films.

"We've taken what was a very dead space that people didn't look forward to walking through to a space people actually enjoy passing through," said Ducharme.

Among the works cur-

rently featured are the photos of Ottawa artist Kelly Ann Beaton.

"I can't think of a better venue," said Beaton, who delights in the idea her photos — of mittens she's found around the city — will become a part of someone's day.

"I hope people will want to take a moment instead of just rushing through."

"It transforms the landscape," said artist Jean Rene, whose photographic installations are also featured.

Ottawa police Insp. Alain Bernard said he is in full support of the project.

"In the past, there was a concern for people's safety," he said of the underpass. "This capitalizes on the space for everyone to enjoy."

Two men facing charges in connection with two separate robberies

ARRESTS Ottawa police have charged two men with two separate robberies.

On March 18, a man robbed the Rexall Pharma Plus in the 1600 block of Orleans Boulevard of an undis-

closed amount of prescription drugs.

Police have charged Embury resident Sean Corcoran, 27, with robbery and uttering threats.

Police have also charged

one man in connection with a Sept. 8, 2008 robbery at a Pretoria Avenue TD Canada Trust.

Police charged Billy Perrigan, 28, of Ottawa with robbery, conspiracy, utter-

ing threats, possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace, and carrying a concealed weapon. He is in custody for a hearing tomorrow.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Turkey has recalled its ambassador to Canada for consultation, said a Foreign Ministry source yesterday, after Prime Minister Stephen Harper spoke at a vigil to commemorate the 1915 killing of Armenians. **REUTERS**

Canada



Schreiber claim denied

The assertion by Karlheinz Schreiber, left, that Brian Mulroney wanted to keep secret his controversial \$300,000 cash payment for lobbying was blown out of the water yesterday by one of Schreiber's own lawyers. Schreiber's Edmonton lawyer Robert Hladun told a public inquiry probing Mulroney's business relationship with Schreiber that Mulroney did no such thing.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Math skills lagging, expert says

EDUCATION For math proseytizer Dr. Arvind Gupta, the financial meltdown is only the thin edge of the wedge.

"That's a game," Gupta said yesterday, sitting a short walk from the foot of Bay Street. "The financial system is there to sell you instruments that make them money. And people don't understand what they're buying."

For Gupta, the math problem in this country is deeper and more systemic.

"If we had more mathematical sophistication, we could reason better about the world around us," he said. "The truth is, I meet a lot of mathematicians who don't understand their finances. Very few of us understand what happened in this economic crisis."

That's a measure of how complex the world has become. And as the numbers grow more abstract, Gupta warns, our ability to process them continues to recede. He quotes studies showing that kids start out loving math — 85 per cent of them say so in Grade 3. By Grade 8, that number has nose-dived to 25 per cent. Gupta believes that has a lot to do with the weak math skills of average adult Canadians.

"You've got this whole population who are at this middling level ... Their parents are starting to struggle. The teachers aren't really well versed beyond that level."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

VANOC makes its case in court

OLYMPICS A lawsuit filed against VANOC by women ski jumpers who want to be included in the 2010 Games has put the organizing committee between a rock and a hard place, a lawyer for the organization says. George MacIntosh, who presented his defense in B.C. Supreme Court yesterday, said VANOC shouldn't be held responsible for the IOC's decision to keep women's ski jumping out of the Games.

METRO CANADA

Canadian hostages freed

Diplomats, European tourists released by al Qaida north African wing

Two Canadian diplomats and two European tourists held hostage by al Qaida's north African wing in the Sahara desert have been released, a spokesman for Mali's president said yesterday.

Canadian Robert Fowler, a United Nations envoy to Niger, disappeared with his aide last December, while four tourists — two Swiss, a German and a Briton — were kidnapped on the Mali-Niger border in January.

"We confirm the release of four hostages," Seydou

Cissouma, a spokesman for Mali's president, told Reuters. He said they were the Canadians and two female tourists.

The freed tourists are from Switzerland and Germany.

Earlier this month, a Malian security source said a team of mediators was negotiating the release of the European tourists.

Sources at the United Nations confirmed Fowler and his assistant, Louis Guay, were free.

In Ottawa, a relative of Fowler's, Member of Parlia-

Statement

Al Qaida's north African wing had said it was holding the four tourists, who were taken from Mali into the neighbouring Saharan state of Niger, as well as the two Canadians.

ment Dominic LeBlanc, said his understanding was that Fowler was being taken by Malian authorities to the capital of Bamako, and his family hoped to meet him in Europe in a few

days.

"Our information is Mr. Fowler is in the custody of the authorities of the government of Mali," LeBlanc said. "They would insure his safety in order for him to get to Bamako, at which point Canadian officials will obviously provide the care ... and hopefully expedite him quickly to visit his family."

Analysts say the Sahara desert in West Africa has become increasingly insecure and the lines between ideology and criminality are blurred.

REUTERS

Economy not out of woods: Official

G7 MEETING The Group of Seven leading industrialized nations will signal at a meeting in Washington this weekend that there are glimmers of economic hope but that the global economy is not out of the woods yet, a senior Canadian finance official said yesterday.

The official, briefing reporters on condition of anonymity, said people have been frustrated at how long it has taken to isolate toxic assets held by banks around the world — seen as a precondition for economic recovery. However, the U.S. is making progress in this area, he added.

REUTERS

Poll Tories losing ground



Prime Minister Stephen Harper speaks yesterday during question period in the House of Commons on Parliament Hill. A new poll puts the Liberals at 32 per cent, the Conservatives at 29 per cent, the New Democrats at 16 per cent, the Greens at 11 per cent and the separatist Bloc Quebecois at nine per cent.

Morning sickness, intelligence linked

STUDY Julie Mindel says she is not the vomiting kind.

But for her first two children, now five and seven, she was basically bowled over with nausea during the initial trimester of pregnancy.

"With my first two, for the first three months I was just nauseous all the time," says Mindel, a prenatal instructor at the Becoming Maternity and Parenting Centre in Toronto.

And though she is on a morning sickness drug this third go-round, Mindel has still had her sickening moments since she conceived four months ago.

But for Mindel — and all expectant mothers who suffer from morning sickness — there may be rewards beyond bundles of giggling joy to make up for

gut-churning gestations.

A new study out of Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children found babies whose mothers experienced morning sickness later tested a few IQ points higher than the children of kids whose mothers had nauseous-free pregnancies.

"In a very popular way it kind of says that this suffering is for a good cause," says Dr. Gideon Koren, a top Sick Kids pediatrician and the senior study author. "So it's very reassuring to know that your severe experience right now is likely to have a good outcome."

Indeed, Koren says, the worse the morning sickness in the mothers, the more pronounced the child's intelligence boost became.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Airport company finds no fault in its security team

HOSTAGE INCIDENT In a finding that will surely be questioned by the Canadian passengers of CanJet flight 918, the company that operates the airport in Montego Bay where a gun-toting hijacker made his way on to the aircraft has found no fault in its employees' actions.

MBJ Airports Ltd. said its preliminary investigation has showed its unarmed security team "reacted properly and followed their procedures," when

the suspect got through security in possession of a gun.

"Airport security screening ... is commonly done with unarmed people," Elizabeth Brown Scotton, chief commercial officer for the company, said in an interview. "This was an armed intrusion."

The investigation, which has been submitted to the Jamaica Ministry of Transport, said the security staff maintained visual surveillance of the gunman until

Suspect

Montego Bay resident Stephen Fray, who has still not been charged, allegedly stormed the aircraft as it sat on the tarmac at Sangster International Airport late Sunday

night. The 159 passengers were released after 45 minutes but five crew members were held in the cabin for another seven hours before commandoes took the gunman down.

the Jamaican Constabulary Force, which has an office at the airport, responded. This police response, the company investigation said, "was exceptional, exceeding many international

standards."

Scotton would not provide specific details of the incident, saying the police investigation is continuing.

Neither Scotton nor a

statement from the company explained how the gunman got past security and managed to enter the aircraft.

MBJ is a partnership between Spanish company Abertis and Vancouver Airport Services.

Donald Porter, a passenger on the flight, expressed skepticism about the findings by MBJ. "Well they did something wrong if he got in there with a gun," the West Bay, N.S., resident said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

French politician turns to Facebook to announce pregnancy

The French minister responsible for the country's digital economy, Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet, announced yesterday that she was pregnant and used Facebook to do it. **REUTERS**

5

World

U.S. warns Iran of nuclear sanctions

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton yesterday threatened sanctions against Iran if it did not end its nuclear program after Tehran offered talks with major powers.

Clinton told U.S. lawmakers she was under no illusions about the difficulty of engaging Iran.

"We are also laying the groundwork for the kind of very tough ... crippling sanctions that might be necessary in the event that our offers are either reject-

ed or the process is inconclusive or unsuccessful," Clinton told the House foreign affairs committee.

Clinton's tough talk came as Iran, in a statement, said it believed discussions could resolve disputes between the Islamic republic and the West, but it said Tehran would press ahead with its work to develop atomic energy.

The statement was a response to an invitation this month by six world powers to discuss the nuclear

N. Korea talks

• Clinton said yesterday that Washington wanted to resume six-nation nuclear talks with North Korea and urged the world to not "give in" to the North's "unpredictable behaviour."

issue. Last week, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Iran had prepared proposals to end the dispute, without giving details.

REUTERS

Global climate deal riding on U.S. laws: Adviser

WASHINGTON U.S. President Barack Obama's top climate negotiator warned yesterday that international efforts to tackle global warming are doomed unless the U.S. enacts laws to limit emissions.

"There will be no new global deal if the United States is not part of it and we won't be part of it unless we are on track in enacting our own domestic plan," Todd Stern told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Countries from around the world are scheduled to meet in Copenhagen in December to try to embrace a new plan for attacking climate change problems.

He said the Obama administration will soon unveil proposals to be dis-



U.S. President Barack Obama poses with workers at Trinity Structural Towers Manufacturing Plant, a wind energy production facility, during an Earth Day visit in Newton, Iowa yesterday.

cussed in Copenhagen.

The House is taking the lead in Congress in an effort to write legislation im-

posing tough new caps on emissions of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.

REUTERS

Major progress made in east Afghanistan: U.S. commander

KABUL U.S. and NATO forces are close to achieving "irreversible momentum" in battles with insurgents in eastern Afghanistan, a senior commander said.

The Taliban and other insurgent groups have been strongest in eastern and southern Afghanistan but U.S. Army Maj.-Gen. Michael Tucker said securi-

ty had improved this year in the east, where U.S. forces lead NATO troops.

He said about 80 per cent of insurgent activity now takes place in southern Afghanistan, where the U.S. plans to deploy thousands of troops to reinforce Canadian, British, Dutch and other NATO soldiers.

REUTERS

U.K. police defend terror raids after release of suspects

LONDON Police yesterday denied making a mistake after releasing all 12 men seized in raids to foil a suspected al Qaeda plot, which were moved ahead by a security breach.

The men, 11 Pakistanis and one Briton, were arrested around northwest England on April 8 as part of a sting against what Prime Minister Gordon Brown called at the time a "very big terrorist plot".

Police said all the suspects had been released due to insufficient evidence, although 11 had been handed over to immigration officials and face deportation.

REUTERS

News in brief

SRI LANKA Thousands more civilians surged out of Sri Lanka's war zone yesterday while soldiers and Tamil Tiger rebels fought the apparent endgame of Asia's longest-running war.

The military said at least 100,000 had been registered for transit to refugee camps and that troops now control all but 13 square kilometres of the island.

REUTERS

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Comment

The man and his music

Tunes go a long way in determining couple compatibility

Relating

Andrea Woo

metronews.ca/woo

"Men profess to be lovers of music, but for the most part they give no evidence in their opinions and lives that they have heard it." — Henry David Thoreau.

As someone whose life is inextricably woven with music, I harbour a deep suspicion for anyone who doesn't listen to much of it.

This carries over into the dating arena, where it could be well-argued a man's attitude toward music can be telling of his attitude

toward romantic relationships.

Music, after all, is a marker of cultural identity. It can permeate every facet of life — work, friends, hobbies, appearance — and shape the people they become.

It can make fast friends of strangers and close friends of casual acquaintances. "It's very important," said a friend

On the web
For more views on relating, go to Love Bytes at metronews.ca/blogs

and fellow audiophile of sharing similar musical tastes with a significant other. "It implies compatibility and common interests — possibly even social views."

One girlfriend tells me she dated a man until she found out he likes Matchbox 20, at which point she felt "meh." Another who suspects her boyfriend is gay was all furrowed brows upon learning he loves Lady Gaga.

Individual artists aside, a person's passion for music can speak volumes about his or her character.

A man who has amassed shelves of classic vinyl records,

for example, has invested time, money and effort into something he is passionate about. A Top 40 fan, not so much.

Hipster doofuses who make grand efforts to find the most obscure music possible — "It's these two Icelandic dudes with oboes and rainsticks!" — are probably as pretentious in other areas of life.

It can also be deduced a hip-hop head won't likely be procreating with the fragile emo kid any time soon. Same goes for the classical jazz fan and the raver who tweaked through the '90s to ATB and Vengaboys.

That said, there is the occasional pairing of those who many would never expect to work, but do. They are the left-field collaborations, the seamless blends — the perfect mash-ups.

Andrea Woo is a Vancouver-based news and entertainment reporter. She won this column in a carnival dart game.



Worth mentioning

Eskimo candy complaint gets frosty Kiwi reception

By her own calculation, Canadian tourist Seeka Lee Veevee Parsons is the most disliked person in New Zealand right now just because of what she insists she is not: An Eskimo.

The Inuit woman is garnering headlines — and animosity — for suggesting a favourite New Zealand candy, the Eskimo Lolly, is racist and improper.

Veevee Parsons said yesterday that she has been shocked at the hostility she has created in the country she loved from the time she arrived two months ago by simply raising the issue of the candy she saw recently in a New Zealand store.

"Calling someone an Eskimo is no longer responsible," said the 21-year-old who is from Nunavut, but has been on an extended work holiday in New Zealand.

"When I was a kid, they used to call me a dirty Eskimo girl and it's a term that shouldn't be used anymore especially on a candy. Is it right that people go around eating shapes of people of another culture?"

The Eskimo Lolly, described as "cherished" and a "treasure" to New Zealanders, is a multi-coloured marshmallow candy in the shape of a person wearing a thick hooded jacket in front of an igloo.

Veevee Parsons, who is working at an organic farm near the city of Rotorua, said she made the comments to a TV station after being interviewed at a tourist information booth she was visiting.

Ever since the story about her complaint went on one TV station earlier this week, Veevee Parsons has been interviewed nearly a dozen times and viewers and readers have been responding by the thousands to her concerns. Most of the response has been personal attacks against Veevee Parsons including some telling her to go home and others insisting she shut up.

Daniel Ellis, spokesman for Cadbury/Pascall, the maker of the candy in New Zealand, said in an interview he's been surprised by the strong public opinions provoked by Veevee Parsons' comments.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Views

Naiveté and international hypocrisy



Mona Eltahawy
Global View

If pirates were holding Nathalie Morin and her three children hostage would the Canadian government rescue her?

Morin, 24, is the Canadian woman who claims her Saudi husband Samir Said Ramthi Al-Bishi — whom she met in Canada — is holding her against her will in the kingdom, infamous for its appalling women's rights record. Morin's mother has threatened to sue the Canadian government for negligence if it doesn't do more to help her daughter.

Morin moved to Saudi Arabia in 2005, taking the Canadian-born child she had with

"Morin's mother has threatened to sue the Canadian government for negligence if it doesn't do more to help her daughter."

Bishi with her. The couple has since had two more children, one of whom — according to Morin's mother — was conceived after rape.

Morin, who complained to her mother Bishi beats her and will not let her leave their apartment alone, visited Canada in 2006, but returned to Saudi Arabia saying she couldn't be without her children. Since then, Bishi has apparently refused to give her permission to travel, a requirement in the ultra-conservative kingdom.

Alleged marital rape? No leaving the house or travel without your husband's permission? Sound familiar?

Surely questions that should trouble Canada where horrified headlines recently chastised Afghan President Hamid Karzai for signing a law that allowed marital rape and barred women from leaving home without a husband's permission.

Where are the horrified headlines over women's rights in Saudi Arabia? Morin admitted it was a mistake to move to Saudi Arabia, so those who want her to lie in the bed she made of her own naiveté can move on.

But it is precisely those shouting "she should've known better" who should answer my pirate question.

Did they blame U.S. Capt. Richard Phillips and his crew for sailing along a stretch of water where Somali pirates had taken dozens of hostages?

I don't believe invasions can liberate women. Laws that guarantee equality and protect women's rights are more important than guns and tanks. But as a Muslim woman who has lived in Saudi Arabia and experienced that country's gender apartheid firsthand, I also know that when it comes to women's rights and international outcries some countries, to borrow from George Orwell, are more equal than others.

Mona Eltahawy is an award-winning Egyptian-born commentator and public speaker on Arab and Muslim issues. She reported on the Middle East for 10 years before moving to the U.S.



It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: ottawaleters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

100M oil barrels stored at sea: Frontline

Oil companies are storing close to 100 million barrels of crude oil at sea, the highest in recent times, according to Frontline, one of the world's biggest independent oil tanker owners. **REUTERS**

7

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Mortgage defaults could rise: Report

Job losses the biggest threat to homeowners

Canadian mortgage holders are facing significant challenges with a risk of increased mortgage defaults in the months ahead due to an uncertain jobs market, says a report.

Eight per cent of Canadian mortgage holders (representing 425,000 homeowners) indicated that being able to make a mortgage payment is currently an issue or concern, says a survey by the Canadian Association of Accredited Mortgage Professionals released yesterday.

Meanwhile, another 18 per cent of respondents, "a surprisingly large share," reported that either them-

Falling behind

- Mortgages in arrears at the end of January were at 0.36 per cent, representing 14,024 mortgages, up from 0.27 per cent, or 10,100 mortgages, at the same time last year, says the Canadian Bankers Association.

selves or a primary earner in the household had lost a job in the past six months.

"The greatest risk facing the Canadian mortgage market is job loss," said Will Dunning, the chief economist for the association and author of the report. In a six-month peri-

od, from late 2008 to the time the survey was conducted in March 2009, job losses totalled 357,000 or 2.1 per cent of total Canadian employment, says the report, representing "a very rapid rate of decline."

About two per cent of Canadians report negative equity in their homes, where the value of the mortgage is greater than the value of the home. Another eight per cent have less than 10 per cent equity, says the report.

If house prices were to fall further, there would be an increase in homeowners with negative equity.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Indonesia Crazy for Crocs



Hundreds of Indonesians line up for Crocs footwear sales at a shopping mall in Jakarta yesterday. A company staff member said they sold more than 12,000 pairs of footwear on opening day yesterday.

In brief

FORECAST Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty sounded an upbeat note on the North American and global economies yesterday, saying he detected small signs of encouragement amid all the uncertainty. Flaherty maintained his assumption of a nominal GDP decline in Canada of 2.7 per cent this year, made in the January budget, saying that fiscal stimulus was now entering the economy.

WALL STREET The finance chief of troubled U.S. mortgage giant Freddie Mac, David Kellerman, was found dead yesterday after apparently committing suicide, a police source said.

PROFIT McDonald's Corp. posted a higher profit yesterday and said April sales at established restaurants are doing as well as or better than their 4.3 per cent uptick in the first quarter despite the ongoing recession. **REUTERS**

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Former Chicago Bear William (The Refrigerator) Perry remains in hospital in serious condition in South Carolina. The 46-year-old has been in hospital to deal with complications from Guillain-Barre Syndrome, a chronic inflammation disorder of the peripheral nerves. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

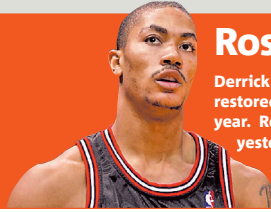
Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONWS.CA

Rose NBA's top rookie

Derrick Rose, who led his hometown Bulls to the playoffs and restored hope to a franchise in disarray, is the NBA's rookie of the year. Rose became the third Bulls player to win the award yesterday, joining Michael Jordan and Elton Brand.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Bruins bring their brooms

STANLEY CUP

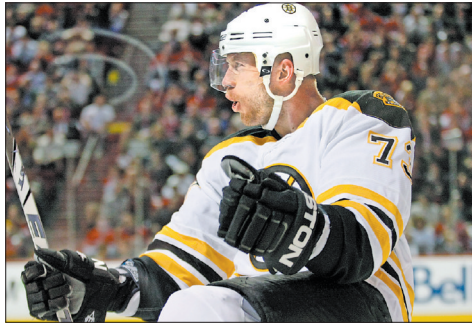
2009 Playoffs

Michael Ryder registered two goals and an assist, as the Boston Bruins came away with a convincing 4-1 victory over the Montreal Canadiens at Bell Centre, sweeping their Eastern Conference quarterfinal series.

David Krejci posted a goal and a helper for the top-seeded Bruins, who won their first playoff series since an opening-round triumph against Carolina in 1999. Phil Kessel also lit the lamp and Tim Thomas earned the win with a 26-save performance.

Andrei Kostitsyn provided the lone tally for the eighth-seeded Canadiens, who have lost their last eight games dating back to the end of the regular season. Carey Price was beaten four times on 30 shots in defeat.

The 2008-09 campaign was expected to be a memorable one for Montreal, which was celebrating its centennial season, but a promising start filled with visions of a serious run at hockey's holy grail in hopes of a 25th title was



Former Hab Michael Ryder celebrates his first period goal in Montreal last night.

followed by a second-half swoon and, ultimately, a bitter first-round exodus.

N.Y. Rangers 2 Capitals 1

Henrik Lundqvist made 38 saves to lead the New York Rangers over the Washington Capitals 2-1 in Game 4 of an Eastern Conference quarterfinal series at Madison Square Garden.

Paul Mara and Chris Drury tallied for the Rangers, who lead this set 3-1 and get their first chance to end this best-of-seven matchup in Washington on Friday.

Alex Ovechkin notched the lone goal for the Capitals.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

For a recap of Game 4 Blackhawks/Flames series, visit metronews.ca

Hab fans class up

The Bell Centre crowd remained almost silent for the U.S. national anthem prior to last night's Bruins/Habs playoff game after booing the anthem in the previous game. Coach/GM Bob Gainey had appealed Tuesday to fans not to boo.

Canadian outdoor NHL game? Only in Alberta

The word is out that the NHL's next outdoor game will take place next season at Fenway Park in Boston. And with it, comes complaints from up here that the league is avoiding holding one in Canada.

Yet the reason is simple.

At this moment, there is only one outdoor stadium in this entire nation that seats more than 40,000 people — Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton, the very field that hosted the NHL's first outdoor venture in 2003.

While it might make you feel warm and fuzzy to imagine NHLers taking the ice at Montreal's Percival Molson Stadium or Toronto's BMO Field, these games aren't staged to make the league feel warm and fuzzy. They are staged to maximize profit, and that (and that alone) is the only reason they are staged.

When you sell 40,000 tickets to a hockey game, you double your gate in addition to swelling TV numbers.

Aside from Commonwealth, McMahon Stadium in Calgary is the only current outdoor venue in the country worth doing it in.

With 36,000 seats, it's 17,000 more than the Pengrowth Saddledome (and only about 2,000

John Chick

metronews.ca/sports

smaller than Fenway).

BMO? Twenty thousand, or merely 2,000 more than the Air Canada Centre. Similar story with Molson Stadium and the Bell Centre.

The Big Owe? Sorry, the roof's screwed on tight now. The Rogers Centre? Sorry, no on-field drainage system. The retractable-roofed version of Vancouver's B.C. Place? Possible, but still unbuilt.

Some corners have said the Ottawa Senators could play a game on the Rideau Canal.

My advice to them would be to not smoke marijuana before making suggestions for where the Ottawa Senators play outdoor games. A frozen waterway with 40,000 temporary metal seats? That's even more temporary seating than most Grey Cup games.

And anybody think about the luxury suites? It's doubtful Eugene Melnyk or any other owner would look the other way on that sweet action.

John Chick is Metro Canada's sports editor. john.chick@metronews.ca

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MLB Big night for Barajas



Blue Jays catcher Rod Barajas connects for his second home run of the last night's game against Texas. Toronto closer B.J. Ryan surrendered a game-tying home run to Michael Young in the ninth inning, but the Jays won 8-7 in 11 innings.

Magic even series against Philly

NBA
2009 Playoffs

Courtney Lee was the catalyst for Orlando, as the rookie recorded a team-high 24 points to help the Magic even their Eastern Conference quarterfinal series against the Philadelphia 76ers with a 96-87 Game 2 victory.

The sharp-shooting duo of Hedo Turkoglu and Rashard Lewis struggled from the field, shooting a combined 7-for-24. But the

pair managed to get to the free-throw line with regularity and ended with 16 points apiece for the Southeast Division champs, who rebounded from a last-second 100-98 loss in Sunday's series opener.

Orlando outscored the Sixers at the foul line, 22-12.

A day after becoming the youngest player ever to win the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year award, Dwight Howard battled foul trouble all game, finishing with 11 points and 10 rebounds before picking up his sixth foul late in the fourth.

For recaps of Game 2 of the Heat/Hawks and Hornets/Nuggets series, visit metronews.ca



METRO NEWS SERVICES



Dwight Howard dunks between Andre Miller and Thaddeus Young last night.

Sports in brief

NHL Anaheim Ducks forward Bobby Ryan, Columbus Blue Jackets goaltender Steve Mason and Chicago Blackhawks forward Kris Versteeg are the finalists for the Calder Trophy as the NHL's rookie of the year, the league announced yesterday. The trophy will be handed out June 18 at the NHL Awards in Las Vegas.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NHL
STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Boston 4 Montreal 1
N.Y. Rangers 2 Washington 1
Chicago at Calgary

NBA
PLAYOFFS
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Orlando 96 Philadelphia 87
Miami at Atlanta
New Orleans at Denver

Metro Homes

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA



From TV to print

Colin McAllister and Justin Ryan, of Colin & Justin's Home Heist, will be on the covers of two May releases from Harlequin Books. Colin is seen here on the cover of *The Border Lord*, by Sophia James. Available May 7.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Do your homework when buying

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

Owning property may cause renters to rejoice at the thought of actually having something to show for the money they're spending. But realtor Aphrodite Karamitsanis warns not to let that initial thrill become overkill.

"First-time buyers are very enthusiastic and sometimes very unrealistic about what they can afford and what they'd like to own," said Karamitsanis, the Calgary-based agent for Royal LePage Canada.

Completing one's financial homework — particularly determining down payment and monthly payments — is the most critical thing for first-time buyers to do before they begin even looking at properties, so they understand what

they can afford, she said. Then, the first consideration should be "location, location, location."

"It's still the operative phrase in real estate," said Karamitsanis, "where they're going to live, and what they're looking for in terms of their home — how many bedrooms, how many bathrooms and how finished the home is."

"Sweat equity" is something she said first-time buyers should especially consider when purchasing a home. That's how much work one is willing to spend renovating areas of the home to build financial equity. Kitchens and bathrooms are the most expensive rooms to renovate, she said, so she recommends new buyers work from the bottom up. "If they buy a home with an unfinished basement, one of the best ways to build equity is to



First-time buyers tend to be enthusiastic about getting on the property ladder, Calgary-based realtor Aphrodite Karamitsanis says.

finish the basement."

Manual labour must be a labour of love when deciding to buy a home — the chief difference between owning a house and a condominium, said Toronto realtor Robert Doyle of Bosley Real Estate.

"With a condominium, you really only own what's behind your door and maybe a parking spot. The whole benefit of ownership is being able to plant your garden and grow your

grass and shovel your driveway in the winter ... the true Canadian activity of home ownership," he said with a chuckle.

The grass isn't the only thing necessarily greener with home ownership. Homes and condos alike are increasingly embracing eco-friendly technologies.

"There's definitely an advantage to buying green," Doyle said. "We have the technology now that we can make things more effi-

cient, safer and better for the environment, not only for ourselves, but for generations afterwards."

That's not to mention the advantage Doyle said going green has on your wallet; a sure aid to one of the greatest financial investments one can make.

"If you own a home, having a home energy audit done — an eco home audit — is definitely an eye-opening experience in terms of cost savings."

Want a condo?

According to Royal LePage realtor Aphrodite Karamitsanis, purchasing a condo is a lifestyle decision that includes the following factors:

- No yard maintenance
- Owning a share in a larger corporation
- Less freedom to make structural changes
- Decisions are often made for you

More Ottawans delving into market earlier

TIM WIECLAWSKI
and TRACEY TONG

Extremely low interest rates have made home ownership very appealing for renters looking for something a little more permanent.

More Ottawans are buying real estate at a younger age, said Sunny Daljit, CEO of Keller Williams Ottawa Realty.

Whether they're making a good wage or buying with help from their parents, Daljit said younger buyers

tend to expect more from their first home.

"For first-time homebuyers, anything up to the \$240,000 range is selling like hotcakes," said Christopher Blenkiron with Remax Riviera.

"A lot of them will buy a town home condo and rent out a room to a friend or student to help subsidize them," Daljit said.

The average home price in Ottawa is around \$300,000, but first-time homebuyers usually go for lower prices, said Daljit. If homebuyers want to live in-

side the greenbelt, they usually buy older townhomes that need a bit of work.

"The challenge is to find affordable first-time housing that is in good condition, and in a location that works well," he said.

Sandra Perez Torres, a senior market analyst with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, said houses are decreasing in price in the downtown area.

"Less expensive houses are sold faster," she said.

But while prices for homes in the city's west, east and south ends aren't

decreasing, these are still very popular areas for new homes.

At first glance, stable prices could make it harder for first-time homebuyers, but it's actually a good thing for all buyers.

"They can be confident that their homes are holding their values," she said. "It's very good time for first-time homebuyers."

"Mortgage rates are quite affordable," she said.

Blenkiron warned that first-time homebuyers should not be shopping for homes at the top of their



The average home price in Ottawa is around \$300,000.

mortgage approval. He said people should keep a cushion above their payments to help cover extra costs.

"I've seen a lot of people overextend themselves and then they're living mort-

gage-poor for the first little while," he said. "They don't count on the fact that when you move into a new place, you need things like window coverings and shower curtains."

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Budget-friendly decor possible

NOELLE MUNARETTO
for Metro Canada

Owning your first home means finally having a space to call your own.

And, one of the best ways to make sure that space truly conveys your personality is through interior design.

While the new mortgage and some minor renovations may leave your pockets a little lighter, three of Canada's top designers reveal that beautiful home decor can still be achieved on budget.

Toronto-based interior designer Meredith Heron, of Restaurant Makeover fame, says the first step for first-timers is to not take any steps at all.

"If they can invest in three to six months of not doing anything, that is an amazing investment," says Heron.

She says she recommends living in the space



Stylish accessories need not break the bank, such as this Alvine Bar duvet cover with two pillowcases, which retails for \$39.99 at Ikea.

for a while, feeling it out and saving up some money for the project.

"Slow the process down. Don't build Rome in one day," she adds.

After that, Heron says a good way to start is by choosing furniture and paint in neutral shades.

"It's all about what you

can do when you have a blank canvas," she says. "White is friendly."

Designer Glenn Dixon, host of W Network's Take This House and Sell It!, agrees that it is important to have neutral basics in place before the design fun really begins.

"Then, one of the best

ways to make a space your own is colour," he says.

Dixon says smaller items like throws, pillows and accessories in funky trend colours can all be sourced on the cheap. But before tackling the budget design stores, clearance racks, antique boutiques or flea markets, Dixon says it's also im-

portant to have a plan.

"My best advice for people is to research magazines for ideas," he says. "Then create a book of inspirations with the clippings."

Ada Bonini, principal of Vancouver's Bob's Your Uncle Design, says artwork is the final step to tie a room

"Slow the process down. Don't build Rome in one day."
Meredith Heron

together. If you can't afford gallery pieces, Bonini offers inexpensive DIY solutions.

"One of the quickest things to do ... is to go and get some canvas from the art store and practise your painting abilities," she says.

If abstract painting isn't your thing, Bonini says another way to get the fine art look is to frame a series of reprints from your favourite art books, or even black-and-white family photos.

But no matter how big or small your budget, all three designers agree that creating the perfect space doesn't happen overnight.

"You don't need to have the dream home right away," says Dixon. "It is something that evolves over time."

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Bryan Baeumler is host of Disaster DIY: Cottage Edition, airing tonight at 9 p.m. on HGTV. Visit hgtv.ca/disasterdiy for streamed episodes and exclusive content.

Close your eyes for a moment and imagine you're at a cottage. The faint aroma of mouldy lumber drifts by on the breeze, and your leaking hot tub sits on a rotting deck with your favourite sports car parked below — what would you do?

Like cottage owner CB, most of us head to the cottage to relax, using 'It's OK, it's just the cottage' as an excuse to avoid regular maintenance and much-needed repairs.

Although CB's party deck off the front of the cottage had a roof, the floor had been built on an angle. The railings were dangerously low to preserve the view, which presented the opportunity for a 12-foot fall to the hard ground below.

The moisture sandwich of carpet, plywood and deck boards was rotting out from under them thanks to a leaking hot tub, and to top it all off, his prized sports car — parked under the structure — was in danger of having a rooftop deck.

I taught CB how to replace the support posts and structure of the deck to bring it up to code and make it level.

After waiting for what seemed like an eternity for him to field numerous phone calls, I taught him how to replace the decking to allow for drainage, while keeping out the mosquitoes.

After a quick lesson from CB on the imaginary concept of "torsional rigidity" in deck building, we built railings that were not only up to code, but allowed for a great view of the lake as a bonus.

Safe deck, great view — time to hit the lake!

Bryan Baeumler is host of Disaster DIY: Cottage Edition. The show airs Thursdays at 9 p.m. on HGTV.

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Rental suite can be a great investment

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada

Is your mortgage weighing you down and draining your monthly coffers? Maybe it's time to put that empty basement to work for you by turning it into a legal rental suite.

Scott McGillivray, host of the hit show Income Property on HGTV, says many homeowners, particularly first-timers, don't quite realize how much income potential lurks within their own home.

"A lot of first-time buyers don't even consider having an income suite in their home and everyone should consider it. It's a great investment for the future," McGillivray said.

With the right circumstances and proper renovations, a home valued at just \$350,000 could pay off as much as an extra \$1,000 every month with a good apartment unit, he says.

When looking for a home with income potential, don't go overboard, McGillivray says — choose practicality over fantasy.



A home valued at \$350,000 could pay off as much as an extra \$1,000 a month, says Income Property host Scott McGillivray.

"Be modest with what you can afford and be reasonable with what you really need. Don't be greedy," McGillivray said.

One of the biggest mistakes McGillivray sees homeowners make is trying to rent out a dingy

basement apartment without renovating it. Invest some money, he says, and make your basement apartment somewhere you would personally love to live — it'll lead to better tenants and higher rents in the long run.

"If you're going to rent out a space, make sure that it's up to your own standards. Don't expect people will settle for less than you would settle for. Rather than charging less, fix the place up so you can charge more. You'll get better ten-

ants that way," McGillivray said.

If you're thinking of buying a home with some extra income potential, McGillivray suggests looking for a few things:

- A separate entrance. It allows for privacy.

- Good ceiling height. If it's too low for you to live in, it's too low to rent.
- Decent window sizes. Light is important and makes an apartment much more livable.
- Extra parking. A spot can be worth up to \$100 per month.

If the seller says the property is already tenanted, check to make sure and ask to see an up-to-date zoning permit for the apartment.

"Know what you're getting yourself into and don't make assumptions. Be smart and look into things," McGillivray said.

Be aware that many suburban areas don't allow rental apartments in private homes, so check to make sure having an apartment is legal before counting rental income in your home-buying calculations.

McGillivray hopes more people will consider using their home to generate extra income.

"It's all about taking action. If you can get your house to work for you, do it!" McGillivray said.

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Attractive Bungalow centered on a premium oversized lot in the middle of Rockland. Golf Club Estate Peace and Quiet in this upscale neighborhood of estate homes. Very Solid and well built home w/ hardwood thru main +1 (or 3rd) level. Upgradable garage, fully finished basement w/ small 11.1m. Low price deck, pool, 1.19 acres right next to 14th tee. Good access to city. Country estate living without the commute...Life is good! Home w/ top of the line garage. Driveway will be paved. 4th bath in basement mostly done.

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Impressive 4 bedroom, 3 bath with 5 p.c. ensuite and 'artist' loft off large master bedroom. Gleaming, solid hardwood and quality, designer ceramic thru and open stairs. Ground floor laundry. Walkout from finished basement, covered rear deck off kitchen. Oversized lot, double garage. Hardwood kitchen/bath cabinets. If calling in LR, consider floor family room w/ top of the line fireplace. Driveway will be paved. 4th bath in basement mostly done.

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Lovely 3 bed m town home in quiet neighbourhood. Short walk to river, nature trails & public transit. Features circular stair case, fully finished basement, patio deck to 2 tier flagstone deck & retractable awning, fully fenced yard, aluminum railings, deck & interlock. Shingles to be replaced by Seller, as soon as weather permits.

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NAVAN

Solid, well decorated 16 Rock Bungalow in very sought after neighbourhood. Overlaid enamel double garage (26'x20') w/ 12 ceiling fans and with custom iron, AC, natural doghouse and some patio area surrounded with beautiful perennial flowers all summer long. Hardwood and proper three main floor fireplace, formal dining in kitchen w/ 2 bath in ensuite and cooling in island. Huge basement with hardwood and wet bar. Make it home!

\$449,900
ROCKLAND CUSTOM

Impressive 4 bedroom, 3 bath with 5 p.c. ensuite and 'artist' loft off large master bedroom. Gleaming, solid hardwood and quality, designer ceramic thru and open stairs. Ground floor laundry. Walkout from finished basement, covered rear deck off kitchen. Oversized lot, double garage. Hardwood kitchen/bath cabinets. If calling in LR, consider floor family room w/ top of the line fireplace. Driveway will be paved. 4th bath in basement mostly done.

\$239,900
COMPLETED RENOVATED

On a large corner lot in a quiet family oriented neighbourhood. Don't be fooled by an average exterior. Extensively remodelled 3 bedrooms bungalow. Gleaming hardwood throughout the open concept main floor. A modern brand new kitchen w/ finished but island gives way to the near 3 season porch off patio doors. All sitting above a fully finished, completely large basement.

\$369,900
NAVAN

Solid, well decorated 16 Rock Bungalow in very sought after neighbourhood. Overlaid enamel double garage (26'x20') w/ 12 ceiling fans and with custom iron, AC, natural doghouse and some patio area surrounded with beautiful perennial flowers all summer long. Hardwood and proper three main floor fireplace, formal dining in kitchen w/ 2 bath in ensuite and cooling in island. Huge basement with hardwood and wet bar. Make it home!

\$449,900
ROCKLAND CUSTOM

Impressive 4 bedroom, 3 bath with 5 p.c. ensuite and 'artist' loft off large master bedroom. Gleaming, solid hardwood and quality, designer ceramic thru and open stairs. Ground floor laundry. Walkout from finished basement, covered rear deck off kitchen. Oversized lot, double garage. Hardwood kitchen/bath cabinets. If calling in LR, consider floor family room w/ top of the line fireplace. Driveway will be paved. 4th bath in basement mostly done.

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- Represent YOUR INTERESTS, NOT THEIRS
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- GREEN CERTIFIED, CUSTOM BUILDER NOW AVAILABLE!

NEW CONDOS IN ROCKLAND

2401 ALBERT ST. UNIT 406, \$244,900
This lovely 2b + 1m has large balcony, w/ kitchen view, open concept kitchen, lot & dining w/ attractive fireplace. Hardwood floors in main area. Master bed has w.c. in closet & 5pc ensuite. Solid concrete, marble for washroom & bathroom. Insulating (under) prep & elevation. Located in centre core of Rockland, close to all amenities. Open house every Sunday 2-4pm. Other models to choose from. 228-2111 w/lt.

2401 ALBERT ST. UNIT 406, \$244,900
Our unique 3 bed m HILLTOP model boasts a balcony off the master bed and a corner window balcony w/ river view. Beautifully appointed in dining area gives one the effect of half living. Breakfast bar in main laundry rm, gleaming hardwood, the designer ceramic and all day windows will certainly have you feeling home in the HILLTOP.

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Don't be afraid to invite birds into your backyard

HomeScape

Sylvia Putz

metronews.ca/homescape

With gorgeous spring weather greeting me more often on these mornings, I am starting to watch the birds as they go about their springtime business.

And I'm well aware of what business that is. Last spring, my husband and I were awoken by the daily insistent peeping of baby birds at 6 a.m.

I am kind of looking forward to it. Kind of, because I do not normally rise that early, but the antics of a bird family is absorbing, interesting and humorous.

Besides providing a daily show of chirping and warbling, birds also impart benefits such as eating mosquitoes. Yes, they keep ear-

ly hours; yes, they can make a racket and yes, they can nibble on your own strawberries or sweet cherries. And yes, they sometimes build nests in places you may not prefer.

But these things can be managed. Besides, the pleasure they give by just being there is considerable. For most of us, there is also some satisfaction in providing a habitat that supports and nurtures birds.

Even if your yard is small, there are some basics to make your yard more friendly to birds. Put out the welcome sign by planting some suitable species. That means plants that will provide some of the basic needs that birds have: food, shelter and nesting sites.

If you put out birdhouses or boxes, be patient. Sometimes, birds are suspicious of something that looks new, and will only venture close when the box starts to weather.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

LEILA EMORY
for Metro Canada

It's what's inside that counts. Just ask your realtor.

"You fall in love with something and you see what's in front of you, but a home inspector can get to the nitty-gritty of a place, like the mechanics and structure," says Tatiana Londono, founder of Chartered Real Estate Agents at Londono Realty Group and host of HGTV's Property Shop. "Hiring a home inspector can avoid all sorts of headaches."

Home inspection is a crucial step in the home buying process. But an inspection is only as good as the inspector. "The number one mistake I see people make is looking for the house before the home inspector," says Mike Holmes of Holmes on Homes and author of The Holmes Inspection. "It's like getting the trailer before the horse. When you find the house that you like, usually it's down to crunch time and you're willing to hire



Ask home inspectors "1,001 questions," advises home building expert Mike Holmes.

anyone that's got a pulse to come in and do an inspection."

So start inspecting early. There are plenty of ways to go about finding a good home inspector. Sandra Rinomato, host of HGTV's Property Virgins, suggests going on the recommendation of a realtor but acknowledges that this can be sticky. Realtors routinely deal with home inspectors and have first-hand knowledge of their work. But there can be conflicts of interest.

"Sometimes agents are in with their inspectors and they'll make an inspection pass," says Londono. "But a lot of times buyers have no idea how to look for an inspector."

To avoid liabilities, both Londono and Rinomato provide the names of three to five home inspectors they've worked with in the past and let their clients make the final choice.

Here's where your own inspection comes in. Whether going on a recommendation or picking

up the Yellow Pages, the key is to ask questions.

"Ask 1,001 questions," says Holmes. "How long have you been in the business? What did you specialize in before? Do you have a background in building, and if so, what is it? How long were you doing that? Can I have a sample report of what you've given someone else?"

For Holmes, it's getting inside that counts: "If they say all I need is a flashlight, a ladder and a notepad, that's not good enough ... I use thermographic imaging cameras, air quality tools, snake cameras that can go through every little crevasse that a mouse can. If they have tools like this, it excites me. It means that they care."

Share your story

Mike Holmes is looking for homeowners who have had bad home inspections and are now faced with repairs they didn't anticipate. Go to makeitright.ca and you could end up on TV.



Bilingual Service

Christopher Blenkiron
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

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\$257,900
GREAT NEIGHBOURHOOD

Cute & clean! Shows pride of ownership. Lovely 2+1bedrms in quiet family neighbourhood. Open concept main floor w/ formal dining & living rms, spacious kitchen w/cut-in area and patio drs to 14'x16' PVC deck. Nice sz yard w/young cedar hedge. Bsmt offers family rm, large bed rm, den, 3pc bath & large utility/laundry rm. Good sz master & w-in closet. 1.5garage w/access to yrd & inside. Easy to show.



\$224,900
TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Welcome home to this cozy 3 bedroom in a quiet family oriented neighbourhood. Outside large yard with solid privacy fence. A full sized, covered veranda with lots of room for friends, newer roof and a garage. Enter patio doors...light, bright kitchen and dining. Pot lights, lots of cupboards and breakfast bar. Comfortable Living room, neutrally decorated. Finished family room in basement and 3rd washroom w/shower ideal for guests.



\$229,900
MANOTICK EST. W/ OF BACK CHANNEL

Live on the river in this 3 BR BUNGALOW prestigious Manotick or simply use as a cottage in town. Place needs some TLC but has endless potential. Across river from park. Very private. Nature/boaters paradise for amazing price! Parking is up at street level.



\$879,900
COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY

One of a kind opportunity on main street of ever-growing Rockland, massive, attractive and well constructed, this successful business location is central and easily recognizable as an ideal location for many business uses while affording spacious and luxurious living and good income generation. Two commercial suites, an oversized residential apartment and main house sit on premium commercial land ready for development. Call for details.



\$324,900
NAVAN

Attractive Bungalow centered on a premium oversized lot in the middle of Bearbrook Golf Club. Enjoy Peace and Quiet in this upscale neighborhood of estate homes. Very Solid and well built home w/hardwood thru main. 4+1 (or 3+den up), double garage, fully finished basement w/small In-Law, nice deck, pool, 1.19 acres right next to 14th tee. Good access to city. Country estate living without the commute...Life is good!



\$449,900
ROCKLAND CUSTOM

Impressive 4 bedroom, 3 bath with 5 pc. ensuite and 'artists' loft off huge master bedroom. Glaming, solid hardwood and quality, designer ceramic thru incl. open stairs. Ground floor laundry. Walkout from finished basement, covered rear deck off kitchen. Overlaid lot, double garage. Hardwood kitchen/bath cabinets. 10' ceiling in LR. Ground floor family room w/ top of line gas fireplace. Driveway will be paved. 4th bath in basement mostly done.



\$235,900
CHATELAIN VILLAGE

Lovely 3 bed rm town home in quiet neighbourhood. Short walk to river, nature trails & public transpo. Features circular stair case, fully finished basement, patio drs to 2 tier fiberglass deck & retractable awning. Fully fenced yrd, aluminum railings, shed & interlock. Shingles to be replaced by Seller, as soon as weather permits.



NEW CONDOS IN ROCKLAND

2360 ALBERT ST Unit 206 - \$219,900
The ST-JEAN model is a 2 bedroom unit offering 1298 sq.ft. Enter onto designer ceramic with practical walk in vestibule to side and immediately see the attractive corner fireplace across the open living/dining area. Patio doors make way onto a 12 x 7 balcony. Ensuite has corner tub, corner shower and linen closet. There is an in unit storage as well as an additional storage beside elevators. Attractive kitchen w/island and double sinks.

2360 ALBERT ST Unit 406 - \$339,900
Apply named the 'Hilltop' this 3 bedroom 1974 sq.ft. Boasts a balcony off the master bedroom and a corner balcony with river view. The incredibly spacious living/dining area gives one the effect of 'loft living' in unit storage, breakfast bar, corner fireplace, separate laundry room and of course gleaming hardwood and designer ceramic will certainly have you feeling at home in the 'Hilltop'.

LOOKING TO BUY BRAND NEW

I currently work with almost ALL new builders in Ottawa area and would love to help you with your purchase-call me first before you visit sales center.



- Decide on one of my buyer incentive packages (e.g. free interior/exterior designer services or moving, lawyer services or credits for furniture/appliance purchase)

We go together to builders of interest to you, discussing pros and/or cons of each

- I represent YOUR INTERESTS ...NOT THEIRS

- YOU ARE MY CLIENT AND I WORK FOR YOU

- GREEN CERTIFIED, CUSTOM BUILDER NOW AVAILABLE!"

More online

For more home and condo news and columns, check out Metronews.ca.

No reason to fear the 'M' word, experts say

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada



For most new home buyers that don't have the capital to fully pay for their property, the pleasure of purchase can be oft overshadowed by the dreaded 'M' word.

"A lot of people have the idea that a mortgage is actually the biggest debt of their life," said Bruna Anacleto, Toronto mortgage specialist for Royal Bank of Canada. "It's really not. It's an investment."

It's also the only property loan homebuyers can acquire, outside of one from family and friends. And the first step Anacleto recommends toward acquiring a mortgage is obtaining a pre-approval, which she said both qualifies you for the loan and gives you a sense of how much you're financially qualified to purchase.

"People tend to dream a little and think their financial situation is one way, but it might actually be another," she said. So before setting your heart on that \$500,000 dream home, a pre-approval will assess if you can really afford it. "You may think, with your salary, you can, but you're not taking into consideration your debt load."

And what qualifies as debt isn't always so apparent. Anacleto said most people don't know that a line of credit, for example, counts as debt, in full. "You may have a zero balance on that line of credit, but we assume that you've withdrawn the whole thing," she said. "The reason for that is because that's credit you can obtain at any point in time, so we want to ensure you can pay that back if that happens."

Paying back a mortgage over tens of years may seem like a daunting task. But there are strategic

ways to do it. Barry Rathburn is a mobile mortgage specialist for TD Canada Trust on Vancouver Island. He recommends accelerating your payment by paying an amount higher than the minimum required, that you feel comfortable with, to make re-

paying more flexible down the road.

"One of your benefits is that you can up to double your payments," said Rathburn. He offers the example of a minimum mortgage payment of \$295. A "comfortable" payment for a couple might be \$450.

But what if that couple decides to have a child?

"Now, \$450 is not a comfortable payment. Maybe it's a stretch," he said. "Having the privilege to increase and decrease your payment at will is a great financial planning tool to manage your cash flow."



Mortgage pre-approvals let you know how much you can afford.



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That's because our Mobile Mortgage Specialists come to you. Days, evenings, weekends, whenever it's most convenient. We'll take the time to help you understand all of your options, and work with you

to get a mortgage that fits your unique situation. Most importantly, our work isn't done until you're entirely comfortable with your decision. It's expert mortgage advice, entirely on your terms.



To find a Mobile Mortgage Specialist today, visit www.tdcanadatrust.com/experts or call 1-800-974-2315



*Recipient of the Synovate Best Banking Award 2005-2008 for Customer Service Excellence among the Big 5 Banks.

Mortgage tips

TD specialist Barry Rathburn offers the following mortgage knocks:

- You can pre-pay 15 per cent of your original mortgage balance each year. If completed yearly, your mortgage would be paid off in about seven years.
- Obtain mortgage insurance, to cover the amount of mortgage debt if you or your spouse falls ill or dies.
- Get approved for the longest possible repayment period to decrease the amount paid in the long run.



Canada Trust

Banking can be this comfortable

Bring your family and friends to the 31 Cent Scoop Night at Baskin-Robbins — next Wednesday, April 29, from 5 to 10 p.m. — to show your support for firefighters and enjoy scoops of your favourite ice cream for 31 cents. Visit baskinrobbins.ca for details. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Food

All peppers start out as green and tart. As they ripen they turn first yellow, orange, or red depending on the cultivar grown.

BARB HOLLAND/FOR METRO CANADA



Sweet

The darker they become, the sweeter and more mellow the taste.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Gems under the glass

Canada lingers at the forefront of greenhouse vegetable production

À la carte

Barb Holland

metronews.ca/alacarte

After a seemingly endless winter, we look forward to warm weather and the first vegetables of the season: asparagus, early greens and rhubarb. But between those first crops (usually May) and the lingering winter storage vegetables (carrots, cabbage and squash), greenhouse vegetables are a welcoming fresh taste — and locally grown.

As our short summers limit the quantity of field vegetables grown, Canada has been at the forefront of greenhouse production for decades.

Greenhouse vegetable production occurs in every province, with Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec as the largest producers.

According to the B.C. Greenhouse Growers' Association, more than five varieties of tomatoes, sweet bell peppers, hot peppers, mini peppers, long English cucumbers, mini cucumbers and butter lettuce are grown under glass.

Vine-ripened and hand-picked, greenhouse vegetables



As always, read labels when grocery shopping to buy locally grown greenhouse vegetables.

bles are premium quality and virtually pesticide-free, thanks to the use of natural predators to control pests.

As always, read labels when grocery shopping to buy locally grown greenhouse vegetables.

Lightly Roasted Tri-Pepper Salad

From Foodland Ontario, this colourful salad made

with greenhouse peppers is best served slightly warm or at room temperature. Serve with grilled chicken or pork. Serves 6.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 each red, yellow and orange greenhouse peppers
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) balsamic or red wine vinegar

- 1 clove garlic, minced
- Salt and pepper
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) crumbled goat cheese
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) torn fresh basil leaves

METHOD:

Cut each pepper into quarters, discarding seeds and stems. Place on a barbecue grill over medium heat. Grill until softened and just lightly charred, 15 to

20 minutes, turning as needed.

Whisk together oil, vinegar, garlic, salt and pepper to taste. Slice peppers into strips and toss with dressing in a large bowl. Place on serving plate, sprinkle with goat cheese and basil.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

Liquid Assets

Peter Rockwell

metronews.ca/liquidassets

A great grape

What makes a particular grape

variety the darling of liquor store shelves? It's a question that wakes up winemakers in a cold sweat in the middle of the night and gives liquid scribes like yours truly oodles of analytical inspiration.

Lately I've been working on why consumers are so crazy about Pinot Grigio (a.k.a. Pinot Gris). After much thought, and more than a few glasses, I think the reason is twofold: First, being easy to pronounce and fun to say has literally put it on the tip of everyone's tongue; and second, it produces simple, quaffable vino that sucks in consumers like a magnet draws metal.

When it comes to true Italian versions **Voga's 2007 Pinot Grigio (\$13.95 to \$17.99)** is lean, green and rounds all the classic flavour bases while coming wrapped in one of the coolest bottles I've seen in ages. Of course every country has jumped on the bandwagon and **California's Barefoot Cellars Pinot Grigio (\$9.95 to \$11.99)** in a non-vintage charmer that's packed with juicy fruit.

The way it quenches my thirst on a warm day is what I dig most about the grape.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

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Lasagna, the Martha way

This Martha Stewart recipe requires all store-bought ingredients and an hour's cooking time. You could substitute fried bacon for the more expensive prosciutto, or jazz up your sauce with sautéed mushrooms or other vegetables. Make sure you squeeze the spinach dry or the lasagna will be too runny. From Food Every-day magazine.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 300 g packages frozen spinach, thawed and squeezed dry

- 1 (475 g) container ricotta cheese
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- Salt and fresh pepper to taste
- 2-1/2 cups (600 ml) store-bought pasta sauce
- 4 oz (113 g) thinly sliced prosciutto, chopped
- 3 sheets fresh lasagna noodles
- 1 cup (250 ml) shredded mozzarella cheese

METHOD:

In medium bowl, mix spinach, ricotta, garlic, salt and pepper. Set aside. In another medium

bowl, mix pasta sauce with prosciutto.

Trim lasagna noodles to fit 8-by-8-inch casserole dish. Spread 1/4 cup sauce on bottom of dish.

Place 1 lasagna sheet on top. Spread one-third ricotta mixture on top with fingers. Top with one-third pasta sauce.

Repeat twice. Sprinkle mozzarella on top. Bake in 375 F oven 35 minutes until top is bubbling and brown. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Makes 4 servings.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local Savour

Pho Thi Noodle Soup

1691-3 Merivale Rd.
613-224-7687
Dishes starting at \$8
Fans of Vietnamese food will find any kind of meat or vegetarian rice or noodle dish on the menu, but for the price, you can't go wrong with a hot bowl of pho, or noodle soup, which is especially comforting on a chilly, rainy April day.

Style

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Check out elleshow.ca for details on this weekend's fabulous fashion and beauty day!

SEAWORLD

Splash some fun in shades of blue



Metal and resin-bead chandelier earrings (\$15, at Aldo Accessories)

More cool spring looks will be showcased by Denis Desro, ELLE Canada's editor-in-chief (fashion), at an event this weekend. She will give an exclusive spring runway report of the season's hottest fashion trends, from the jumpsuit to the wedge sandal. Check out elleshow.ca for details.



PVC handbag (\$35, at Aldo)

Floral tiered silk dress, Nougat London (\$265, 1-888-356-9226)



Resin-bead bracelets (\$45 each, at The Bay)



Leather and wood platform wedge sandals (\$100, at Aldo)



HOT BEAUTY

Summertime means sexy sundresses, evenings on the patio — and a whole new beauty look. The objective? Sun-kissed skin with perfectly painted lips and lids in summer shades of rose and coral. But before you toss your trusty foundation and stock up on bronzer, learn how to do it right. At the ELLE event this Saturday, Val Garland, the artistic advisor for Yves Saint Laurent Makeup, and Jacquie Hutchinson, the national product trainer for Revlon, will outline summer's prettiest makeup trends — and how to achieve them.



YSL Palette D'Artiste Collector Powder for the Eyes (\$78)

Encore!

Project Runway Canada's top three finalists reconnect for an exclusive runway show

By LAURA DECARUFEL
Senior Editor

Fashion might not always be pretty, as Iman says, but it's always compelling. This season of Project Runway Canada was full of drama, from two contestants leaving the show for health reasons (on the very first episode!), to the uproar that ensued after one aspiring designer (ahem, Brandon) revealed that he was unfamiliar with the work of fashion legend Yves Saint Laurent. But the real news was on the runway, particularly in the creations of the top three finalists: Jessica Biffi, Jason Meyers and

Sunny Fong, the talented Toronto designer who was crowned the winner last week. "The biggest surprise is how passionate viewers are about the show," says Fong. "How little things like me hugging my mother on the runway made people tear up. It's amazing."

This Saturday afternoon, Fong, Biffi, Meyers and their PRC mentor Brian Bailey are joining forces for a special fashion show during the all-day ELLE event in Toronto, Ont. The designers will be showcasing their finale collections, which debuted during Toronto Fashion Week in March. "The finale show was



Project Runway Canada finalists Jason Meyers (far left), Jessica Biffi and winner Sunny Fong.

a closed show, so only a select few were able to experience it," explains Fong. "It will be really cool for the public to have the same 'live

experience." Afterwards, Bailey will host a Q&A, so fans can get an insider peek into all the behind-the-scenes gossip.

Editors' Pick

FASHION STARS

Want to experience a runway show featuring the best of Canadian fashion? Check out the ELLE event this Saturday, where top designers, including Tavan & Mitto (shown), Renata Morales, and Marie Saint Pierre, will show their spring 2009 collections!



MAUDE ARSAUNAU/MODEL-GIGI



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Former secretary of state Condoleezza Rice thinks Randy Jackson is top dawg. When the classically trained pianist, 54, was in L.A. for her March 24 appearance on The Tonight Show With Jay Leno, she arranged to meet the American Idol judge, 52, for a private sit-down. **PEOPLE.COM**

Rice meets with Idol judge

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONWS.CA

★★★★ A CLASSIC; ★★★★★ EXCELLENT; ★★★ GOOD; ★★ FAIR; ★ POOR

Ida Maria kicks butt

Ida Maria

Album: Fortress Round My Heart
Label: Mercury/Universal
Rating: ★★★★★

IT WAS STARTING to get too easy to be a pop singer. All you had to do to make the grade, it seemed, was take on a retro sound and a name like Duffy or Adele. So it was about time that somebody like Ida Maria, 24-year-old rocker from Norway, came along to kick some deserved butt. Her forthright approach — so wonderfully demonstrated on her first single I Like You So Much Better When You're Naked — has already hit the charts in England. There's a celebratory



charm to her off-key punk squawk that cuts through the crap on songs like Oh My God and Stella. She's the woman everyone wants to go out and get hammered with. Yet she also shows fragility on Keep Me Warm and desperation on Forgive Me. There's an attraction here that's unexplainable. Call it attitude, call it allure. Just give us more Ida Maria.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Asher Roth

Album: Asleep in the Bread Aisle
Label: SRC/Universal
Rating: ★★★★★

FRAT BOY RAP?

This CD would have been much easier to review if it



MusicReviews

music@metronews.ca

was by Weird Al Yankovic. But the satire contained in I Love College — Roth's hilarious anthem to white male hedonism — hits too close to the truth. Just ask Michael Phelps. For some, undergraduate life indeed seems to be all about smoking dope, drinking near-lethal quantities of booze, vomiting, passing out and bragging about all the naked women they almost met. Comparisons to Eminem are ludicrous, but come nonetheless. Roth, an unabashed suburbanite from a good middle-class home near Philadelphia, handles them deftly on As I Em. Although it's hard not to laugh out loud with songs

like Blunt Cruisin' and Bad Day, this is not a novelty disc. The music on tracks like She Don't Wanna Man, His Dream and Lion's Roar is just too good.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Depeche Mode

Album: Sounds of the Universe
Label: Capitol/EMI
Rating: ★★★★★

JUST BECAUSE THE '80s new-wave revival died out a couple years ago, doesn't mean the bands who actually came from that era have disappeared. Sounds of the Universe is new-wave pioneers Depeche Mode's 12th album and it's another synth-heavy blast of brooding



Not for sale

No evidence suggests Rafiq Qureshi tried to sell his young daughter, Slumdog Millionaire actress Rubina Ali, say police in India after an investigation. **PEOPLE.COM**

Norwegian rocker Ida Maria is forthright on her latest album Fortress Round My Heart, which is now available in stores.

electro sounds. Like the band's past work this is a highly emotive effort with plenty of fuzzy distortion and passionate croons from singer Dave Gahan. Some might be surprised that nearly 30 years on these guys can still create a pretty great listen, but they've done it and show no signs of slowing down.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Bat For Lashes

Album: Two Suns
Label: Echo/Parlophone/EMI
Rating: ★★★★★

KATE BUSH USED to concoct ethereal art rock like this; same for



Tori Amos and Björk to some extent. So what sets Natasha Khan's m.o. apart? The British songstress proffers a more ear-pleasing soprano, along with an imaginative dual lyrical character worth following. With a backdrop of reverberating keyboards, jungle-like percussion and mystical chamber-pop arrangements, Khan's eccentric lair sounds intriguing to visit.

Ian Nathanson/for Metro Canada

critics' corner

Masterworks

A sad but compelling portrait of an artist as a middle-aged man, "The Art of Failure: Chuck Connelly Not for Sale" follows painter Chuck Connelly through six years of his life. An unashamed alcoholic, Connelly was one of the up-and-coming stars of the art world in the 1980s, but his hard drinking and difficult personality alienated patrons, collectors and loved ones. Let's just say his epitaph is not likely to read, "Played well with others." 10 PM on 2 TVO



Southland

Art imitates life to some extent, as Tom Sizemore ("Saving Private Ryan") guest stars as a hard-partying actor who has star-struck Dewey (guest star C. Thomas Howell) wanting to play along instead of booking him, making Chickie (Arija Bareikis) second-guess her decision to be Dewey's partner. Ben (Ben McKenzie) opens up about why he wanted to be a cop in the new episode "See a Woman." 10 PM on 104 CTV

OT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
4/23/09	265	353	2	TVO	Megastructures	The Agenda With Steve Paikin	London Hospital	Masterworks (N)	Agenda-Paikin			
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Survivor: Tocantins (N)	The Office (N)	Kink in Hair	(10:01) Harper's Island (N)			
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	Alimentation	Les Galas 2007 du Festival	Le Téléjournal et Les Nou	(10:02) Private Practice (N)			
	209	342	6	CHRO	Instant Star	Old Christine	Samantha Who	America's Next Top Model	Southland (HDTV) (N)			
	196	311	7	CTV	Hollywood	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Grey's Anatomy (N)		National	NHL Hockey: Conf. Quarterfinal		
	208	303	8	CBC	NHL Hockey: Eastern Conference	Quarterfinal Game 5 -- Flyers at Penguins			Southland (HDTV) (N)			
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-For-Tune	Jeopardy! (N)	Name Is Earl	Parks-Recreat	The Office (N)	30 Rock		
	117	713	10	TVA	Dépenses xtr	Histoires-filles	Dr. House "Maternité" (SC)	Destination Nor'Ouest (SC)	Bus 152 (1997, Suspense)	Hannes Jaenicke, Stefan Jurgens		
	-	-	11	QS	Loft Story	Un monde bête	Michael Tremblay	Survivor: Tocantins (N)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.			
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)	News (N)	Two/Half Men	King		
	-	362	13	CBS	Raymond	Raymond	Law & Order: SVU	In Motherhood	Parks-Recreat			
	216	395	14	OMN2	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	The Insider (N)	E! News	Name Is Earl	10 Items-Less		
	115	343	16	CFMT	The Insider (N)	E! News	Entertainment	Heure polit.	L'Heure politique			
	218	345	18	E!	Happy Days	Laverne	Seinfeld	Bones (HDTV PA) (N)	100 Huntley Street	Hell's Kitchen (N)		
	-	361	20	ABC	La Période de questions				Life Today	This Is Day		
	512	396	24	CPAC	Happy Days	Laverne	Seinfeld	Bones (HDTV PA) (N)	100 Huntley Street	Hell's Kitchen (N)		
	512	396	24	CPAC	Happy Days	Laverne	Seinfeld	Bones (HDTV PA) (N)	100 Huntley Street	Hell's Kitchen (N)		
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)				Life Today	This Is Day		
	-	-	64	PBS	All-Star Auction				Life Today	This Is Day		
	205	312	104	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Grey's Anatomy (N)	Southland (HDTV) (N)			
	552	340	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	Planet Earth "Caves"	CBC News: The National	CBC News: The National			
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias	Larry King Live (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)			
	406	417	27	net	MLB Baseball: Texas Rangers at Toronto	Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.			Sportsnet Con. Sportsnet Con.	Hockey Central		
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)	Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal	
	400	280	30	TSN	NHL Hockey: West Quarterfinal -- Red Wings at Blue Jackets				SportsCentre	NBA Basketball: First Round		
	410	403	52	SCR	World Poker Crown		Score Update	Score Update	SportsCentre	NBA Basketball: First Round		
	411	457	56	OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures "Morocco"	Mantracker	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures	
	417	406	59	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)	Bullrun (HDTV) (N)	Bullrun (HDTV) (N)	Pimp My Ride		
	554	544	48	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	Helboy: Sword of Storms (Fantasy)	Helboy: Sword	
	557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han, Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House
	551	542	65	YTV	True Jackson	H2O, Just Add	Malcolm-Mild.	Futurama	In Real Life "E.R."	Falcon Beach	Entourage	Gene Simmons
	570	580	29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Metal Mania	The Beast (N)	The Beast	
	515	520	31	A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV) (N)			
	628	584	32	SPKE	UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed		TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (N)			
	521	560	34	TLC	Rides Graphic artist.		Overhaul! (HDTV)		American Chopper (N)		Stop Shouting at Me!	Amer. Chopper
	145	761	35	TV5	Destinations	Fourchette	Club social		Envoyé spécial		Cité guide	Journal TV5
	616	521	39	BVO	The Outer Limits		Love-Death	Love-Death	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Departed (2006, Crime Drama)	
	620	523	40	SHO	Camera	Snapshot	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		McLuhan's Wake (2002, Documentary)			
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Global Warming: Challenge		Discovery Project Earth			
	575	583	43	CLT	Totally		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith
	601	562	45	SNC	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	X-Weighted "Jill"		X-Weighted		X-Weighted	Extreme Wind
	625	548	46	COM	Air Force	Just for Laughs	Friends	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	VIP	Extreme Wind
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	The Crow: City of Angels (1996, Fantasy)	
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes in New Orleans	Disaster DIY	Big Amazing	House Hunters	House Hunters	HolmesOrleans
	627	528	50	SPC	Stormworld	Grand Star	Star Trek: Voyager		Ghost Hunters	Chuck (HDTV) (N)	Stargate SG-1	
	581	566	53	MTV	Mom & Dad	After	MTV News	Cribs	The Hills	The Hills	Taking the Stage (N)	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Vanity Insanity	Inside Hollywood	Seinfeld		Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Married...With
	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS "Lost & Found"		Ancient Discoveries		Go Deep in Istanbul.		NCIS "Lost & Found"	Sea Hunters
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Josée Lavigne"		Les Procureurs (HDTV)		Motards hors-la-loi (HDTV)		Histoires de crimes (HDTV)	National Geo
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God "Allo, Allo!"		Project X ** (1987, Drama)	Matthew Broderick.		Pottergeist
	602	567	62	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Divine Design	Love It-List It
	269	590	70	APTN	Warriors: TKO	Wapos Bay	By the Rapids	renegadeexpress	Follow the River ** (1995, Adventure)	Sheryl Lee.		MYTV
	621	527	71	TLK	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	American Idol Extra (N)		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno	TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Chef at Home	Exotic	Restaurant Makeover		Chef Jeff Project (N)		Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes

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No illusion here — Blaine gets hitched

David Blaine is planning to marry his French girlfriend, model Alizee Guinochet. The illusionist reportedly confirmed the engagement to New York Post gossip column PageSix over the weekend. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Obsession gone wrong

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

The thriller Obsessed may be best summed-up with the proverb, "hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."

The film — which opens this Friday — stars Ali Larter as an office temp who becomes so enamoured with a co-worker, she sets out to ruin his marriage. As the title implies, it's an infatuation that knows no boundaries.

It's not necessarily a novel idea however. Swimfan, Single White Female, Notes on a Scandal and Vanilla Sky are just some films that explore a similar trend of female-rooted obsession. It seems instead of the traditionally bewitching femme fatale archetype, writers are more frequently devising roles where women become the stalker.

Although the notion of what has been described as the fixated "psycho femme" was introduced in 1971's *Play Misty For Me*, "When most people think of (1987's) *Fatal Attraction*, (they think of) the ultimate case of obsession-gone-wrong," says Dominique Mainon.

"I think everyone gets mixed up between love and possession at one point or another."

Dominique Mainon

Co-author of the book *Cinema of Obsession*, Mainon has studied erotic fixation on film and describes the "female gaze" as influential to the recent gender-flipping trend in movies.

"The female gaze is a quasi-feminist perspective where the woman is trying to enforce her own ideals with men instead of the other way around," says Mainon, noting that while this quasi-feminist dimension may seem empowering at first, the "psycho femme" always gets her due in male-dominated Hollywood.

"For the most part, it's always presented as a dysfunction when you see the woman in charge like that," says Mainon. "She's almost always considered emotionally isolated; she has dysfunctional relationships; she's never, in the end, getting married, going off and having a good life."

Movie feature

While the deviant character may suffer on-screen, theatre owners are hoping the premise of an obsessed woman will at least fill multiplex seats this weekend. After all, as the popularity of past thrillers has dictated, cult audiences do obsess over

the archetype of the "psycho femme."

"I think people want to live vicariously through these characters," says Mainon. "This is just a chance to escape and imagine what it would be like. Whether people carry it out or not, I think everyone gets mixed up between love and possession at one point or another."



Idris Elba, left, and Ali Larter in a scene from *Obsessed*.

In brief

TELEVISION Reality show *Project Runway* makes its long-awaited return to TV Aug. 20 on its new cable channel home at Lifetime. The sixth season was delayed due to a dispute with NBC's Bravo.

REUTERS

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt

Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

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One month after 23-year-old Lauren Conrad announced that she was taking a hiatus from her upscale clothing line, the Hills star is launching a brand new apparel line for Kohl's department stores, people.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Beauty queen's gay marriage remark sparks celeb defence



OPINION In light of Miss California slamming gay marriage, Britney Spears and Miley Cyrus have stepped forth to declare that they support gay rights.

"Love is love!" Spears, 27, said on her Twitter page Tuesday. "People

should be able to do whatever makes them happy!"

Cyrus, 16, also Twittered to openly gay blogger Perez Hilton (who asked Miss California Carrie Prejean what she thought of same-sex marriage during Sunday's Miss USA competition) after Hilton informed Cyrus of the high suicide rates among gay and lesbian youth.

"Jesus loves you AND your partner and wants you to know how much He cares!" Cyrus said. "Like I said, everyone deserves to be happy."

Later, she added, "I am a Christian and I love you — gay or not — BECAUSE you are no different than anyone else! We are all God's children."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

LiLo's friends worried

PEOPLE More friends are voicing their concern about Lindsay Lohan in the wake of her split from Samantha Ronson, according to Page Six.

A source says the actress is "a complete and utter wreck" and has been partying hard and spending time with

"a different man every night."

According to the newspaper, some of those men include 90210 star Kellan Lutz and British photographer Chris Jepson. The friends fear Lohan may be headed for a major meltdown.

METRO WORLD NEWS



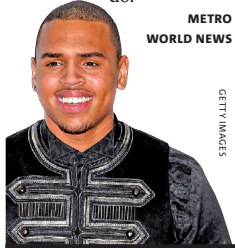
Mike Tyson's tips for Chris Brown

ADVICE Mike Tyson has Chris Brown figured out. The former heavyweight champ, who was accused of beating girlfriend Robin Givens, was asked what he thought of 19-year-old Brown, who's accused of assaulting his girlfriend, Rihanna.

"My personal opinion about that is, he's just a baby," Tyson tells MTV News. "He's just a little baby that don't know how to handle his emotions when it comes to a woman."

"And he probably hears this and thinks, 'I know how to handle my emotions.' We all think we do."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Britney to have day in court?

LEGAL Britney Spears is "crying out for help," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Circus singer is desperately trying to escape from her controlling father, her former attorney's lawyer told a Los Angeles court on Tuesday.

Jamie Spears is trying to obtain permanent restraining orders against the singer's former manager Sam Lutfi, attorney Jon Eardley and lover Adnan Ghalib.

The 27-year-old singer's legal team refutes the claims, calling the men predators who have patently threatened and continually harassed her.

Eardley's lawyer Roger Diamond wants Britney to testify in court

because he believes her father is holding her prisoner.

The temporary restraining orders against all three men were extended until April 28, when the judge will hear rebuttal arguments before making a final decision.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Curvy Jessica hits the gym

PEOPLE Jessica Simpson — who battled scrutiny for her new curves earlier this year — is working out again. And she doesn't like it, people.com reports.

"On my way to workout

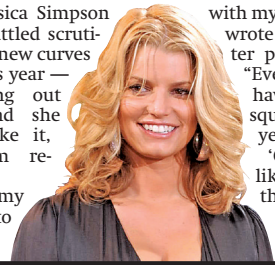
with my trainer," she wrote on her Twitter page Monday. "Every time we have to do squats, and he yells at me, 'Get lower like you're in the club!'"

Simpson, 27, then

adds, "I don't squat in the club unless I am peeing!"

A source tells us-magazine.com Simpson is working with her longtime personal trainer Mike Alexander. Alexander told Fox News last month that the singer wasn't miffed at all the coverage surrounding her fuller figure.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Never been drunk: Paula

PEOPLE Paula Abdul says she doesn't take prescription drugs — and she's never even been drunk. The American Idol judge hopes to set the record straight in a Nightline interview, which aired on ABC last night.

Asked by Cynthia McFadden about her loopy on-air behaviour and rumours of her taking pills

in the past, Abdul says, "Never. I've never been drunk in my life. I don't like it. It's not my thing...Will not take those drugs. And you can check my medical records — there is nothing like that."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Drinking double standard: Lily

PARTYING After she released her 2006 debut, Lily Allen worried that she might have ended her career prematurely because of her hard-partying ways.

"I took a bit of a beating the first time around. I became more famous for being a train wreck than a singer," she says, according to Ex-posay.

"Young women are represented in a way that isn't true. If a girl is seen having a drink, she's a drunk. If that happens with a guy, it's not portrayed in the same way."

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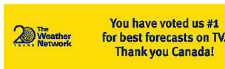
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Fine Crafts Certificate



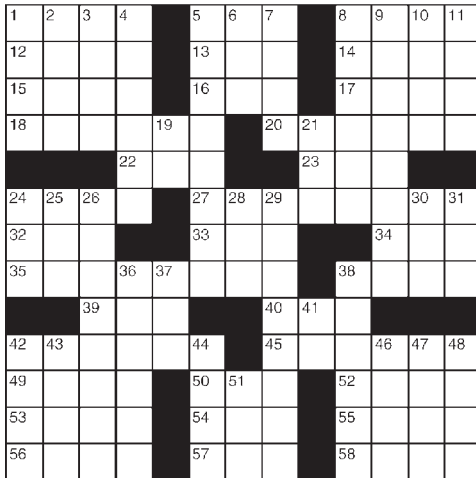
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Take Five



Crossword across

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Mid-May honorees | 34 Ostrich's kin |
| 5 Ref | 35 Puzzle |
| 8 Unadulterated | 38 Formerly, formerly |
| 12 Grand story | 39 Whatever amount |
| 13 D.C. type | 40 Hostel |
| 14 Mimicked | 42 "Family Feud" prelim |
| 15 Crosby, Stills and — | 45 Torrential rainstorm |
| 16 Ferrigno or Costello | 49 Destroy |
| 17 Secondhand | 50 Sapporo sash |
| 18 Occurring last month | 52 Suitor |
| 20 With tenderness | 53 Sean Penn title role |
| 22 Vast expanse | 54 Relatives |
| 23 Nipper's co. | 55 Reply to "Shall we?" |
| 24 Start of something big? | 56 Eyelid woe |
| 27 Lisa, to Marge | 57 See 24-Across |
| 32 Tear | 58 Otherwise |
| 33 Kreskin's claim | |

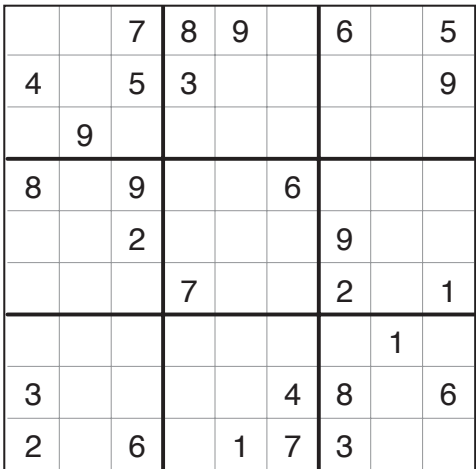
Crossword down

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Carte | 28 Enzyme suffix |
| 2 October stone | 29 Riot |
| 3 Atomizer output | 30 Type squares |
| 4 Division | 31 Same old same-old |
| 5 Transferred files | 36 Bring about |
| 6 Cattle call? | 37 Caustic solution |
| 7 Advertise | 38 Allow to happen |
| 8 Potbelly | 41 007's doctor foe |
| 9 Buffalo resident, e.g. | 42 Totals |
| 10 Fishing rod accessory | 43 Condo, e.g. |
| 11 Whirlpool | 44 Oxen's joiner |
| 19 Yours truly | 46 Boat's bottom |
| 21 Work unit | 47 Packs away |
| 24 Sphere | 48 Stratagem |
| 25 Compete | 51 Ginormous |
| 26 In the ascendant | |

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

C	A	M	P	C	A	P	A	S	A	P	8	7	3	4	1	9	5	6	2
A	M	I	R	U	G	O	D	I	C	F	4	9	6	2	8	5	1	3	7
S	I	M	O	L	E	O	N	A	M	M	1	2	5	3	7	6	8	4	9
K	N	I	F	E	O	A	M	P	E	N	7	4	9	5	6	2	3	8	1
J	U	S	T	A	G	A	R	R	I	B	5	8	2	1	3	7	4	9	6
A	S	T	D	R	A	M	A	T	E	R	3	6	1	8	9	4	7	2	5
B	A	M	A	N	T	I	G	R	A	Y	9	1	4	7	2	3	6	5	8
P	A	N	E	D	G	E					6	3	7	9	5	8	2	1	4
B	E	L	U	G	A		A	N	G	L	E	2	5	8	6	4	1	9	7
O	D	I	N		S	I	M	M	E	R	E								
R	I	F	T		T	O	O	R	E	A	D								
K	E	Y	S		A	N	T		A	W	R								

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:	17-21 minSmart
Under 13 minGenius	21-25 minNot bad
13-17 minScholar	25+ minKeep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Fragrant Lamb with Spinach

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tbsp (25 ml) canola oil
- 2 onions, minced
- 4 garlic cloves, crushed
- 2-in. (5-cm) piece fresh ginger, peeled and chopped
- 1 red chili pepper, seeded, deveined, and sliced
- 2 tsp (10 ml) paprika
- 2 tsp (10 ml) ground cumin
- 2 tsp (10 ml) ground coriander
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground white pepper
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) cinnamon
- Seeds from 8 green cardamom pods, crushed
- 2 bay leaves
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) plain yogurt
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) sour cream
- 1 lb (500 g) lean boneless lamb, cubed
- 2 large tomatoes, chopped
- 1 bag (10 oz/225 g) fresh baby spinach
- 4 tbsp (60 ml) chopped fresh cilantro
- Fresh cilantro sprigs

METHOD:

1. Heat oil in large pot

over medium heat. Add onions, garlic and ginger; sauté, stirring frequently, until onions are golden, 10 minutes.

2. Stir in chili pepper, paprika, cumin, coriander, white pepper, cinnamon, cardamom seeds, bay leaves and salt. Stir briefly over medium heat. Stir yogurt and sour cream together, then stir into pot with 2/3 cup (150 ml) water. Add lamb, mix well and cover pan. Simmer until lamb is tender, about 1 1/4 hours.
3. Add tomatoes, spinach and cilantro. Cook, stirring, until tomatoes are soft and spinach wilts, 2 minutes. Taste for seasoning and remove bay leaf. Serve garnished with fresh cilantro.

SERVES 4



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Deal with health issues one at a time. Jealousy makes you laugh. Count your blessings in an unbelievable situation.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21

A lazy person reveals deep-seated greed. Play it safe by speaking out. Limit your involvement with a sneaky old friend.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23

A victory will be a vindication. A perplexing situation arises at the last minute. Maintain your silence about trashy treasures.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22

Reorganizing causes wonderful changes. Help a friend to take it easy. You can nurture hope for a sweetheart.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21

Be bold to defeat bashfulness. Trust affection to win over a friend. Say goodbye to a painful past.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21

A sentimental person exposes a new passion to you. Don't judge someone who lives in despair. Shake off your qualms by learning the facts.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22

Pardon an annoying coward who left a mess. An insulting accusation creates anxiety. An astounding dream leads you to good fortune.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20

Gambling causes a breach in a weak relationship. A shameless person is enthusiastic. There's a pointless argument over a ridiculous rule..

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23

A problem will be solved if you play it cool. Defenses cause your fight-or-flight mechanism to engage. Don't let a bad phone call ruin communication.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18

You won't want to heed any cries for help. An oddball gets ignored in public. A judgmental woman ridicules signs of growing older.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22

Try to hide some slobby personal habits. Unexpected demands widen your perspective. Change your tactics when mercy is shown.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20

A youngster wants you to take charge. The odds can be beaten. An entertaining adventurer attracts attention.

WORDY GURDY
BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like PAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

1. Chef/TV host Rachael's word string (1)
2. H when spelling the body's "ticker" (1)
3. Campus area lightning attractor (1)
4. Bore into a window ledge (1)
5. Wrist timepiece's indentations (2)
6. Flunking yachting (2)
7. Atlas page creator's candy coverings (2)

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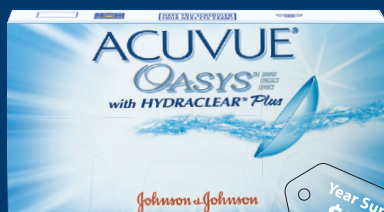
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